

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

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SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 223361

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW

SUBJECT:MBFR: FRENCH DATA PROBLEM

REF: BONN 14379 (DTG 280758Z AUG 76)

1. FRG EMBASSY OFFICER CALLED ON ACDA SEPTEMBER 8 TO
DELIVER COPY OF A GERMAN PAPER FORECAST IN REFTEL. TEXT OF
PAPER FOLLOWS IN PARA 2. PAPER IS CAST IN TERMS OF DRAFT
NAC GUIDANCE TO AD HOC GROUP. EMBOFF SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH
FRG SEES NO SOLUTION TO FRENCH PROBLEM IN SHORT TERM,
GERMANS BELIEVE IT NECESSARY THAT BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH
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PARIS NOT BE INTERRUPTED. HE ADDED THAT MISTRAL TOLD

GERMANS ON AUGUST 23 THAT "FRENCH WOULD BE WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE FURTHER TO SOLVING THE PROBLEM." FRG, HE CONTINUED, CONSIDERS IT USEFUL TO MAKE CLEAR TO FRENCH OUR DESIRE TO RESOLVE ISSUE, USING DRAFT GUIDANCE TO AHG AS MECHANISM FOR DISCUSSION WITH FRENCH. HE UNDERLINED THAT FRG PAPER IS AN INFORMAL PAPER, "NOT AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF FRG" AND IS INTENDED TO BE DISCUSSED AT WORKING LEVEL. TURNING TO FRG TEXT, EMBOFF SAID THAT SECOND NUMBERED PARA SHOULD BE VIEWED AS "INTERNAL NATO STATEMENT." WE THANKED EMBOFF FOR PAPER AND ASSURED HIM THAT IT WOULD RECEIVE OUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FRG PAPER, CLASSIFIED SECRET.

BEGIN QUOTE: CONTRIBUTION TO A NATO PAPER IN CONNECTION WITH THE RELEASE OF LATEST NATO DATA FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA.

1. THE ALLIES PARTICIPATING IN THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS AUTHORIZE THE AD HOC GROUP IN VIENNA TO INFORM THE MEMBERS OF THE WARSAW PACT OF THE FOLLOWING:

A. THE OVERALL WESTERN GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL (GROUND AND AIR FORCE PERSONNEL) IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS AMOUNTS TO 790,500 (980,000) SOLDIERS. THE AGGREGATE STRENGTH OF THE GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL (GROUND AND AIR FORCE PERSONNEL) OF THE ALLIES PARTICIPATING IN THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS AMOUNTS TO 731,500 (920,500) SOLDIERS IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS.

B. ONLY THE ALLIES PARTICIPATING IN THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS WILL TAKE PART IN FUTURE MBFR AGREEMENTS. FRANCE DOES NOT TAKE PART IN THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS AND AGREEMENTS. FUTURE REDUCTION AGREEMENTS WILL THEREFORE NOT APPLY TO FRENCH FORCES IN THE AREA OF REDUCTION.

C. THE WESTERN PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS PURSUE THE GOAL OF ESTABLISHING APPROXIMATE PARITY OF GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL (GROUND AND AIR FORCE PERSONNEL) IN THE FORM OF A COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING ON BOTH SIDES. THIS COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING WILL REFER TO THE APPROXIMATE
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OVERALL NUMBER OF THE UNIFORMED ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL LOCATED IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS. ONLY THE MBFR-PARTICIPANTS OF BOTH SIDES, HOWEVER, WILL BE PARTNERS OF SUCH AGREEMENTS AND THEY ALONE WILL THEREFORE ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF THE OVERALL COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS. THEY WILL COLLECTIVELY SEE TO IT THAT THE OVERALL COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING WILL BE ESTABLISHED AND

OBSERVED.

2. THE ALLIES AGREE: THERE WILL BE NO COMMITMENTS FOR FRANCE AS A RESULT OF AN AGREEMENT ON A COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING. AFTER A COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING WILL HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WILL REMAIN FREE TO CHANGE THE MANPOWER LEVELS OF THE FRENCH FORCES IN GERMANY IN CONFORMITY WITH THE AGREEMENTS ON THE PRESENCE OF FRENCH FORCES IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. THE WESTERN PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, BY VIRTUE OF THE COMMITMENT ONLY BINDING THEM TO OBSERVE THE AGREED COMMON CEILING, WILL SEE TO IT THAT THE CAPACITY OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE THE MANPOWER LEVEL OF THE FRENCH FORCES IN GERMANY IN CONFORMITY WITH THE AGREEMENTS ON THE PRESENCE OF FRENCH FORCES IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WILL NOT BE LIMITED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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